

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

AID-05 EB-07 XMB-02 TRSE-00 COME-00 /070 W

----- 035093

R 290745Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0127

INFO USMISSION EC BURSELS

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBABANE 1501

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SF, EEC, MZ, WZ

SUBJECT: SWAZI MINISTER'S TOUR D'HORIZON

1. SUMMARY. MINISTER S.S. NXUMALO, KEY GOS CABINET MEMBER, TOOK SOUTH AFRICA PUBLICLY TO TASK FOR RACIAL POLICY AND COMMENTED PRIVATELY ON US ROLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, ON HIS ROLE IN SETTING UP CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN COMMON MARKET AND MOZAMBIQUE, AND ON NEED FOR ETERNAL VIGILANCE AGAINST COMMUNISM. END SUMMARY.

2. AT AUGUST 27 RECEPTION IN SOUTH AFRICAN PAVILION AT SWAZILAND TRADE FAIR (MANZINI), MAIN EVENT WAS SHOWING OF TWO FILMS, ONE ON A SWAZI NATIONAL CELEBRATION AND OTHER ON RECENT MARRIAGE OF SWAZI PRINCESS TO ZULU KING. AT CONCLUSION, HOST J.H.O. ADENDORFF OF SAG DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION ACCOMPANIED SWAZI MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, MINES AND TOURISM, DR.S.S. NXUMALO, TO MICROPHONE FOR PRESENTATION OF ORIGINALS OF THOSE FILMS TO SWAZI GOVERNMENT. ADENDORFF REMARKS APPROPRIATELY BRIEF AND NON-POLITICAL. AFTER FEW SENTENCES OF THANKS, NXUMALO LAUNCHED INTO EXTEMPORANEOUS, OCCASIONALLY EMOTIONAL, THINLY DISGUISED LECTURE ON RACE RELATIONS. NXUMALO STRESSED A NUMBER OF TIMES THAT

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SWAZILAND'S MAIN CONTRIBUTION TO WORLD IS DEMONSTRATING THAT MANKIND

CAN LIVE IN PEACE WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, OR CREED. NOT MENTIONING SOUTH AFRICA BY NAME OR REFERRING TO SPECIFIC INSTANCES OF UNREST THERE, HE SAID PEACE COULD NOT BE ACHIEVED UNTIL ALL PEOPLE TREATED EQUALLY. NXUMALO MADE CLEAR THAT HE HAD SOUTH AFRICAN HOSTS IN MIND BY CONCLUDING HIS LONG STATEMENT WITH OBSERVATION THAT "FRIENDS SPEAK OUT OPENLY TO EACH OTHER, WHILE SNAKES SAY ONE THING TO YOUR FACE AND ANOTHER BEHIND YOUR BACK." ADENDORFF, WHO KEPT STIFF UPPER LIP DURING EPISODE, TOOK MICROPHONE "FOR LAST WORK" TO THANK SWAZI GUESTS FOR THEIR PRESENCE.

3. NXUMALO THEN SOUGHT ME OUT AND BEGAN RAMBLING MONOLOGUE WHICH INCLUDED FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. US AND SOUTHERN AFRICA. WITHOUT ELABORATION, HE SAID US EFFORTS ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES "WILL MEAN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SALVATION AND DISASTER."

B. MOZAMBIQUE AND COMMON MARKET. NXUMALO SAID AN EEC REPRESENTATIVE HAD EXPRESSED REGRET TO HIM THAT MOZAMBIQUE NOT INTERESTED IN ASSOCIATING WITH COMMON MARKET. NXUMALO HAD THEREUPON VOLUNTEERED TO LOOK INTO MATTER. HE TRAVELED TO MAPUTO (FINDING AMONG OTHER THINGS, HE SAID, THAT COMMON MARKET MATERIALS SENT THERE ONLY IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH), EXPLAINED COMMON MARKET TO SENIOR LOCAL OFFICIALS, AND PERSONALLY ARRANGED AT DETAILED SCHEDULE FOR VISIT TO MAPUTO BY AN EEC REPRESENTATIVE ON SEPTEMBER 3. NXUMALO TOOK OBVIOUS PRIDE IN HAVING SET UP THIS MEETING.

C. ARMS RACE. NXUMALO DEPLORED SUMS SPENT ON ARMS IN AFRICA. NO FURTHER COMMENT.

D. COMMUNISM. HE SAID COUNTRIES HAVE TO REMAIN ALERT TO LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES OF COMMUNISTS, WHO WOO SOME BY PROVIDING "A PORT HERE,

HALF A DOZEN CARS THERE," BUT WHO HAVE SIGHTS SET ON TAKEOVER TEN OR TWENTY YEARS HENCE. HE SAID BEST PREVENTIVE IS NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO ELIMINATE ATTRACTIVENESS OF COMMUNISM.

4. COMMENT: NXUMALO WIDELY REGARDED AS A LEADING MOVER AND CONFIDENTIAL

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SHAKER IN GOS AND ONE OF KING'S MOST TRUSTED ADVISERS. HIS VIEWS CAN THEREFORE BE ASSUMED ACCURATELY REFLECT THOSE OF KING AND GOVERNMENT. HE HAS CLOSE TIES WITH KEY MOZAMBIKANS. A STRONG CAN-DO PERSONALITY, NXUMALO SAID HIS PHILOSOPHY IS "NEVER ASSUME A SITUATION CANNOT BE IMPROVED" AND "YOUR DRIVE OUT A BAD IDEA WITH A BETTER ONE. WACHOB

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, COMMUNISM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MBABAN01501
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760329-0177
From: MBABANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976089/aaaaahdl.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <13 OCT 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWAZI MINISTER'S TOUR D'HORIZON
TAGS: PFOR, SF, MZ, WZ, EEC, (NXUMALO, S S)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006